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## NEW BOOKS

ALAZARD, J. *Communisme et fascio en Italie.* (Paris: Bossard. 1922.)

CARPENTER, N. *Guild socialism. An historical and critical analysis.* (New York: Appleton. 1922. Pp. xv, 350. \$2.50.)

DELEMER, A. *Le bilan de l'étatisme.* (Paris: Payot. Pp. 285. 10 fr.)

A protest against the socialization of industries, based on a detailed history of economic organization of France during the war; an analysis of the accounts of the great business undertakings of the state; and a demonstration of the ruinous result of its conduct of them. There is a good bibliography, and a preface by M. Jacques Bardoux, who supports the author's argument. R. R. W.

HAMMOND, L. B. *William Lovett, 1800-1877.* (London: Fabian Society. 1922. 3d.)

LIEFMANN, R. *Die kommunistischen Gemeinden in Nordamerika.* (Jena: Fischer. 1922. Pp. 95. 10 M.)

A short account, well put together, of the colonies in the United States which have tried to embody the communistic idea. There is a good history of the Huter Baptists who began in Moravia in the sixteenth century and still numbered 1300 souls in 1914 in South Dakota, and of the Amara colony in Iowa. The author's conclusion, after reviewing the life of these and of other communistic groups, is that communism is possible only among small groups of people having the same education and habits, and that it is hardly possible except when there is at the base of it a religious idea. Any wider application of the communistic idea must fail because it implies more compulsion to work at whatever the state sets a man to do than the average man will stand except in time of war, and because human progress would cease when the greater part of the community worked only in the half-hearted way which is customary in government bureaus. The author omits all consideration of the possible change in the attitude of the average man toward work when work is done under other conditions than those of today.

R. R. W.

PILENCO, A. *La législation soviétique et la conférence de La Haye.* (Paris: Giard. 1922. Pp. 56.)

An attempt on the part of a jurist to show that under the soviet government the citizen, and the alien resident in Russia, has practically no civil rights. The author reviews the state of the law at the date of Tchitcherine's communication to the allied governments, March 1, 1922. Like most of the writings on Russian affairs which have come from France during the last few years this book gives a rather prejudiced view of the situation.

R. R. W.

POISSON, E. *Socialisme et coopération.* (Paris: Rieder & Cie. 1922.)

*Consumers' coöperative societies in New York state.* (New York: Consumers' League, 289 Fourth Ave. 1922. Pp. 24.)

*The development of the civil service.* Lectures delivered before the Society of Civil Servants, 1920-1921. (London: King & Son. 1922. Pp. 244. 7s. 6d.)

Contains lectures on the Administration of State Telephones, by Sir

Andrew Ogilvie (pp. 92-128), and the Limits of State Participation in Industry, by Sir Herbert Morgan (pp. 83-91).

*The fight for socialism. A review of present forces and a forecast of victory, by an unrepentant socialist after the war of 1914-1918 and the post-war struggles of 1919-1920.* (New York: Longmans, Green. 1922. Pp. 39. 75c.)

*Sämtliche Veröffentlichungen der zweiten Sozialisierung-Kommission.* Third edition. (Berlin: Engelmann. 1922. Pp. 59. 5.30 M.)

## Statistics and Its Methods

*Wealth and Income of the American People.* By WALTER RENTON INGALLS. (York, Pa.: G. H. Merlin Co. 1922. Pp. xiv, 321.)

Mr. Ingalls' *Wealth and Income of the American People* is a combination of a comprehensive, yet detailed and highly suggestive, analysis of the wealth of the United States, with a series of somewhat sketchy chapters discussing the distribution of the national income; the former is distinctly worth while, but the latter, on the whole, disappointing. Such a chapter, for instance, as "The results of socialism and communism," dealing at considerable length with the Russian situation, seems strangely out of place. A repudiation of the quantity theory of money (an underlying thought of the author) is practically forgotten elsewhere than in the preface, and throughout the volume the rather positive economic deductions drawn from statistical data presented are likely to challenge the opinions of the reader.

The use of 1913 prices as a common denominator permits the summation of dissimilar physical objects appearing in the enumeration of wealth. This base is departed from only in the few instances where the unit value of a particular item has a pronounced secular trend, rendering improbable the restoration of its pre-war relationship to the price level as a whole. The essence of the inventories consists, therefore, in "the counting of things rather than the ephemeral valuations that are put upon them." On this basis, which eliminates the effects of inflation, the estimated increase in the internal wealth of the United States from 1916 to 1920 amounted to 1.6 per cent—a rate of gain actually less rapid than the growth of population itself and confined in large part to consumers' goods of luxury or semi-luxury character. An improvement of about \$18,000,000,000 in the international situation is discounted heavily, on account of the character of the obligations represented. These additions to wealth are considered not only substantially less than could have been expected had there been no war, but of such an unbalanced character as to necessitate future readjustments.

An approximation of national income, expenses, and savings is obtained on an annual basis for the period 1913-1920 through a com-